

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/617,584

Applicant(s)

DE FRANCE, ROBERT

Examiner

Adolfo Nino

Art Unit

2831

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/11/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-27.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 11 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed _____, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the margin according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ |
| 3 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No. <u>7/11/03</u> | 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-27 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for the indication of the allowability of claims 1-13 is the inclusion therein of the limitation of "an array of petals carried on said arcuate collar extending radially outward relative to said peripheral surface, each of said petals being pivotally displaceable from a first position in which each of said petals is substantially coincident with a plane that is perpendicular to said geometric axis and extends through said collar to a second position that is oblique to said plane" in combination with the other claim limitations. This limitation was neither disclosed nor taught by the cited prior art, alone or in combination.

The primary reason for the indication of the allowability of claims 14-20 is the inclusion therein of the limitation of "an array of petals carried on said arcuate collar extending radially outward relative to said peripheral surface; each of said petals being pivotally displaceable from a first position in which each of said petals is substantially coincident with said plane to a second position that is oblique to said plane, each of said petals carried on said arcuate collar" in combination with the other claim limitations. This limitation was neither disclosed nor taught by the cited prior art, alone or in combination.

The primary reason for the indication of the allowability of claims 21-27 is the inclusion therein of the limitation of "each of said petals being pivotally displaceable from a first position in which each of said petals is substantially coincident with said

plane and a second position that is oblique to said plane” in combination with the other claim limitations. This limitation was neither disclosed nor taught by the cited prior art, alone or in combination.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Williams (US 6,291,774 B1) discloses a wildlife guard cover. Cook et al. (US 6,248,956 B1) disclose insulated electrical equipment. Spillyards (US 6,005,196) discloses a triggered wildlife guard. Barrett et al. (US 5,834,686) disclose insulated electrical equipment. Harben (US 5,682,015; 5,679,922) discloses a squirrel shield device. Beasley (US 4,906,801) discloses an animal guard. Muschong (US 3,639,678) discloses a bushing protective guard. Lin et al. (US 6,455,782 B1; 5,552,566) disclose an apparatus for preventing coronal discharge. Richards (US 6,265,669 B1) discloses a semiconductive attachment disc. Ishihara et al. (US 5,705,775) disclose a corona control ring. Shepherd (US 4,201,883) discloses a guard for high voltage electrical terminal bushing.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Adolfo Nino whose telephone number is (703) 305-1071. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (7:30-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Dean A Reichard can be reached on (703) 308-3682. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

AN


DEAN A. REICHARD
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800